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Attachment

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: ROBERT D. VANDERMINDEN

Serial No: 09/895,950

Filed: June 29, 2001

TITLE: UMBRELLA TILT MECHANISM Customer No.: 27162

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 29, 2002.

REMARKS

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Claims 1-24 remain in this Application.

Claim 1-13 and 15-24 have been rejected as being clearly anticipated by Tung.

Attached herewith is a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 to overcome Tung. The Declaration sets forth facts showing a completion of the invention of the present application in the United States before the filing date (January 11, 2001) of Tung.

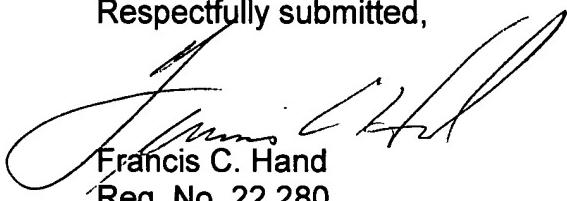
In view of the enclosed Declaration, a rejection of Claims 1-13 and 15-24 as being anticipated by Tung is not warranted. Pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §102.

Claim 14 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Tung. However, Claim 14 depends from Claim 13 and is believed to be allowable for similar reasons as Claim 13.

The remaining references have been reviewed; however, none is believed to be further pertinent to the claimed structure taken alone or in combination.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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